



Pennsylvania
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Statistics
Service

Pennsylvania State
Department of
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Pennsylvania Press Release

PRESS RELEASE

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PENNSYLVANIA'S JANUARY POTATO STOCKS

HARRISBURG -- Total stocks of potatoes stored in **Pennsylvania** on January 1, 2000, were 1,200,000 cwt., 20 percent less than a year ago, according to the Pennsylvania Agricultural Statistics Service. Of this amount, 406,000 cwt. were stored in processor's facilities, approximately 34 percent of the total stocks.

Stocks are defined as the quantity (whether sold or not) remaining in storage for all purposes and uses, including shrinkage and waste and other losses that occur after the date of each report. Stocks may also include potatoes produced in other states. Sales of fall potatoes for all purposes for the past five years averaged 90.7 percent of the total fall production. Shrinkage, loss and home use account for the remaining 9.3 percent.

The **15 major potato states** held 238 million cwt. of potatoes on January 1, 2000, down 3 percent from a year earlier and 3 percent below 1998. Storage accounted for 57 percent of 1999 fall production, down 1 percent from a year ago. This year's storage held more russets but fewer whites than a year earlier. Disappearance, at 182 million cwt., is up 3 percent from last year and up slightly from the previous record high in 1996.